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Sarah Tewksbury
University of Southern Maine

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OCTOBER 16, 2017
VOL. 49 ISSUE NO. 5

Students Stand Together in the Face of Adversity

Ossie & Tewksbury | p 4



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Hunter Mahon / Contributor
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Sarah Tewksbury
Editor-in-Chief

I am a klutz. On the first night after moving out of my parents' house, I was doing dishes, broke a glass and then cut my hand on the glass. When I was fourteen at my summer job, I once knocked over an entire shelf of blueberry syrups that all crashed to the floor in a sticky, glass filled mess. When I was fifteen I fell playing soccer in my driveway (alone, might I add) and had to get six stitches in my knee. Then last night I tripped on my porch and slammed my head into the railing and broke my nose. Ten minutes ago I accidentally dumped an entire water bottle out in my car on my mail.

As a child, my dad's two catchphrases quickly became "stop running in the house" and "slow down!" I suppose my constant need for speed hasn't changed, just the pace and significance of my life. As a child, when I fell down, got hurt or ran through my house, I was carefree and fun. As an adult, speeding through life eliminates the notion of being carefree. However, my tolerance and resiliency has increased time and time again as a result of my constant ineptitude.

My clumsiness makes me goofy and ridiculous. I spend too much time accidentally sending a text to the wrong person or trying to play it cool when I walk around campus with a pair of underwear stuck to my jacket via static electricity.

The realization that life can be overwhelmingly serious and painful has hit me all too many times. At twenty-two, I feel as though I have lived several lifetimes. What I have seen, done and been part of has seemed to already wear me out. Most days, I wonder how I'm still standing.

I'm clumsy but I don't let it get me down

That's the thing though--I am still standing. Running through life, editing the paper, going to school, working, taking care of my loved ones, and so on and so on, I keep my head held high and my chin up. I'm fortunate enough to be able to convince myself to keep going in the face of misery

through life for a short period of time. Though I am young, I am tired but must keep going and must keep living. It is time for us to start laughing a little harder and smiling a little longer. Let us brighten our lives by acknowledging our faults and enjoying them. I cannot guarantee that I will not have

to mop up a gallon of water that I've spilled or take another trip to Maine Med, but what I can guarantee is that life will be better, for you and those around you, if you can find it within yourself to lighten up. So today, I'm looking at my mean mug and I'm laughing because there is nothing else that can be done.

When accidents happen and mistakes are made, it is often all too easy to revel in negativity. I'm not the world's most positive woman; however, to be able to see and understand what is happening when a situation is bad it can help to move on from it. What I mean to say is that the acknowledgement of the severity of a situation can be beneficial. It can help you learn and laugh. For example, here I sit, writing this letter, concussed and with a broken nose, acknowledging the disjointed and incoherent nature of these words, knowing that next week I will not leave my letter from the editor to the last minute and that I will be able to laugh at my ridiculousness all week long. What truly is the point if you cannot laugh at yourself? I encourage all of you to take a little

extra time today to laugh at yourself and understand it is okay to mess up.



and misfortune. My clumsiness helps with that. I spend so much time laughing at myself and acknowledging the hilarity and ridiculousness that my life is lightened.

The purpose of listing my egregious awkwardness is not to elicit sympathy or a laugh. It is to remind all of you reading my rambling thoughts that we are human. Together, we all walk

Sarah Tewksbury

Traveling “preacher” harasses students

Gorham campus plays host to Matthew Bourgault

Johnna Ossie & Sarah Tewksbury
Managing Editor & Editor-in-chief

Devyn Adams and their friends were leaving Brooks Dining Hall around 12:30 p.m. early last week when they noticed a large crowd gathering. A man was standing on the hill looking down one of the pathways leading to Brooks. As they got closer, they realized the man was wearing a large sign with things like “sex addicts,” “lewd women,” and “God’s judgement” written across it. The man was reading bible verses out loud to the gathering crowd of students.

At first, according to Adams, the man was using what Adams called “basic homophobic language.” Adams and their friends stuck and around for a while and then left as they had made other plans. They returned around 2 p.m. The crowd had gotten larger.

The man was Matthew Bourgault, a self described evangelical Christian from Missouri, who is known for bringing his aggressive, and what students call hateful and violent, rhetoric to college campuses across the country. Bourgault is part of a group of so called “open air preachers” who travel to college campuses. The group, “Official Street Preachers” preaches similar rhetoric to that of the more well-known Westboro Baptist Church.

In 2012, Bourgault started a physical altercation with a Christian student, Christian Chessman, at the University of Florida when the student attempted to speak with Bourgault’s two sons. Police at the time told Chessman that Bourgault could be arrested for battery, but Chessman declined to press charges. In 2011 Bourgault was escorted off campus at James Madison University for approaching a student table selling Green Club calendars with the headline “Green is Sexy,” picking one up and proceeding to destroy it.

Adams and their friends went to their dorms and grabbed some Pride themed items and returned to the hill.

“He was on the hill facing two major walkways,” Adams said, explaining that it seemed like Bourgault had chosen a spot he knew students would be passing frequently. Adams and their group of about six went up the hill to take higher ground. The group held Pride flags and chanted “Love is love.”

Adams said they noticed the crowd gathering closely around the man, and that the crowd was “self policing,” not wanting to engage in any physical altercations. This was when, according to Adams, Bourgault started verbally attacking specific students directly.

Some members of Resident Life in Gor-

ham had been trying to gather students away from Bourgault in front of Lower Brooks. Pizza had been ordered. But many students felt that Bourgault posed a direct threat to their safety, despite campus security and other administration saying he did not, and stayed to confront him directly.

USM administrators and campus police remained in the vicinity of Bourgault and the students. However, the intensity of emotions among certain groups of students was so great that interactions with administrators were not always positive. Gaylon Handy, a sophomore Psychology student, said that Erika Lamarre, rookie USM administrator and Director of Community Standards and Mediation, did not identify herself before aggressively interacting with students.

While standing with friends, Handy was holding a pride flag rolled up. Lamarre allegedly told students that campus police were going to soon be dispersing all of the individuals gathered, including Bourgault. According to Handy, Lamarre was told by students that they would not leave the premise until they were positive Bourgault was gone and they were safe on their campus once more. During this interaction, Lamarre gestured toward Handy firmly.

“Erika pointed at me and said ‘your pride flag could be considered a weapon and you could be arrested,’” Handy said. “I had a very angry response. [Bourgault] incited violence on my campus through microaggressions and when he did that he lost his right to free speech and being on my campus, and Erika didn’t know that.”

Handy went on to say that it felt as though the administration was not doing all they could to support the safety and health of the students. “I’ve never been told by a neutral bystander that I’m the danger,” Handy said. “I feel extremely disrespected. I was told by the administration that I was the problem. Paid administrators told me that I was the problem. I felt marginalized, patronized and attacked by administration.”

In response, Lamarre said that the advice she was giving students, particularly Handy, “was not received in the manner in which it was meant.”

“I just hope the students know how much the staff present were distressed that our students were being spoken to in the manner in which [Bourgault] was speaking,” Lamarre said.

According to Adams, Bourgault admitted to having a weapon and to filming students interactions with him. Adams said from

See **PREACHER** on page 5

where they were standing it looked like the man had a knife in a holster on his pants. Around 4:30 p.m., he left campus on his own.

As students in Gorham most affected by Bourgault were trying to digest the harassment they had experienced, many wondered why campus security and administration had refused to remove the man from campus.

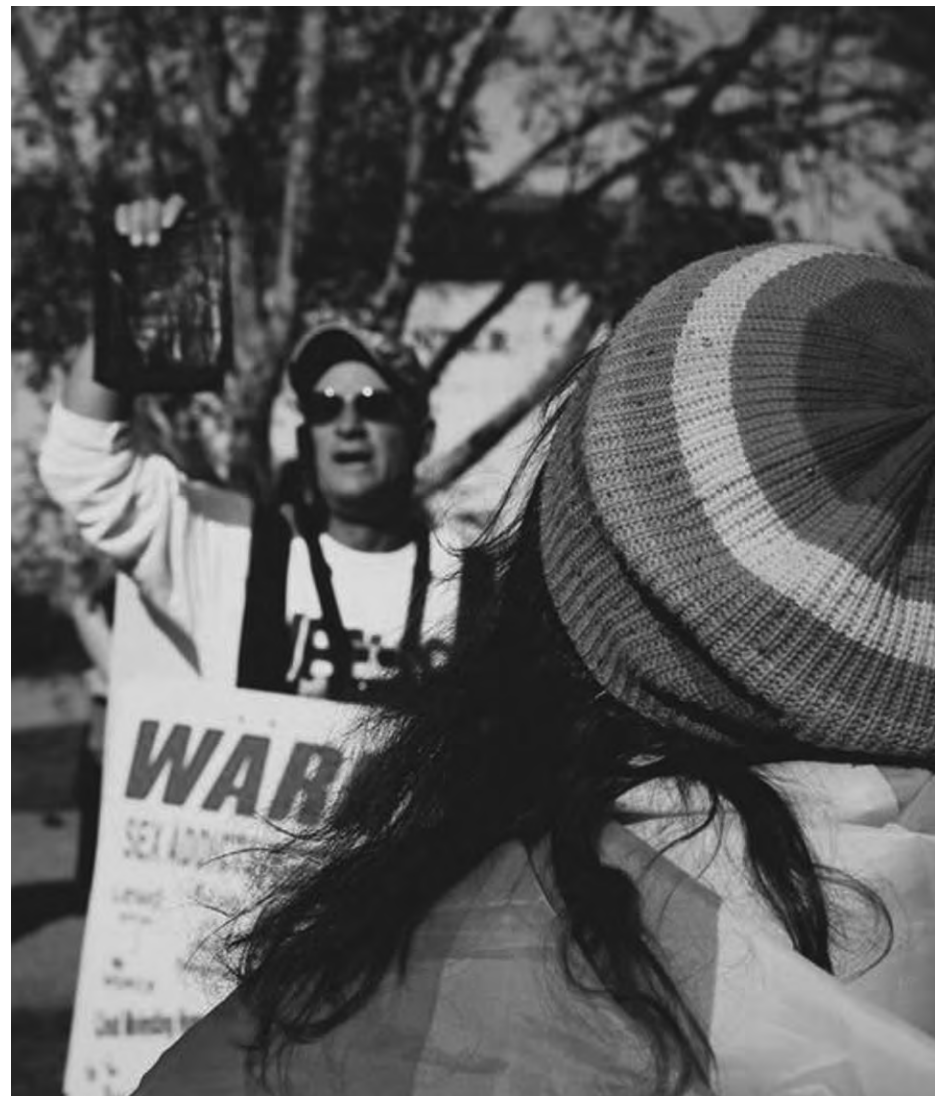
“Erika [Lamarre] was telling people he was leaving but he didn’t,” Adams said. “She made it sound like he was being removed.”

According to Nancy Griffin, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, Gorham Police were called to assess the situation and found that Bour-

gault wasn’t violating any laws. According to Griffin, the safety of the students is the number one priority to university, and the situation was being discussed by a number of administrators to go over options in the future. They are also creating a new policing surrounding campus speakers and freedom of speech on campus which is currently in draft three.

Visitors “cannot engage in hurtful or hateful speech that makes students feel unsafe,” Griffin said.

“He told one student she deserved to be raped,” Adams said. The reason: she wasn’t wearing a bra. Bourgault went on to call students “child molesters” and “whores,” and said that if the police weren’t present, that



Hunter Mahon / Contributor

Matthew Bourgault travels around the United States to visit college students and spread his ideals through his interpretation of evangelism.



Hunter Mahon / Contributor

USM students came together Tuesday afternoon to support one another in the face of adversity. Holding pride flags and standing together the students felt safer than if they were individuals alone.

From **PREACHER** on page 4

gay students present would “take him behind the bushes and rape him.”

Adams and about eight of their friends filed crime reports through the USM website. Adams filed a Title IX report for the sexual harassment of students.

Adams added that some of Christian students on campus felt that Bourgault was putting their religion in a bad light, “basically bastardizing their religion,” and that it’s important that people don’t think all

Christians hold the same beliefs as Bourgault.

Students like Gabrielle Nelson, junior Linguistics student, and Brenden Pittiglio, sophomore nursing student, explained that Bourgault’s version of Christianity is not what they adhere to. As Christians, Nelson and Pittiglio were frustrated to see Bourgault on campus portraying himself as an authority on morality.

“Jesus wasn’t a hater; he was a lover,” Nelson said. “This man, [Bourgault], was

backlashing and throwing a lot of hate and judgement at innocent students. He was showing a lot of misconceptions about what being a Christian is.”

Observing students’ interactions with Bourgault, Nelson and Pittiglio saw a positive side to the visitor coming to campus.

“This event brought a lot of good conversations and did a lot of good,” Nelson said. “I saw the community of students coming together to stand up for love.” Pittiglio also acknowledged that constructive conversa-

tions were had and an effort was made for students present to understand one another and to see where they were coming from.

Some Christian students on campus, including Nelson and Pittiglio, have expressed deep concern that their religion has been misrepresented by Bourgault’s presence at USM. Hopes that the community sees Bourgault as an independent entity and outlier of Christianity are not far from their minds.

FP

Linguistics department opens new office

Communal space accessible to students in Science Building

Jess Ward
News Editor

On Friday, Oct. 6, the linguistics department debuted their new office space, in the A-wing of the Science Building. Rooms 305 and 310 are open to all linguistics and language students, and 410 is a Deaf space for students to communicate only in American Sign Language (ASL).

The space in 305 includes a library, sound proof booth, and tutoring resources for students to use as a study space and experimentation lab. Across the hall, 310 includes the offices of the linguistics staff, but is still completely open to students to work in and meet with professors. 410 is ideal for ASL students to host study groups and meetings, and for Deaf community events.

This year the linguistics department, headed by Professor Dana McDaniel, absorbed all of USM’s foreign language programs. Languages offered include ASL, Spanish (SPA), German (GER), French (FRE), Arabic (ARA),

Chinese (CHI), and Italian (ITA). Students studying any of these languages are welcome to use the linguistics office, and the library in 305 includes a section dedicated to foreign language study.

The opening of the office was met with an excited group of students and professors, celebrating their new offices and resources. Lucy Shulman, a senior in the undergraduate linguistics program, says she feels like the new office space legitimizes the department. “We were shoved off to the side,” she says, referring to the previous office on Exeter Street. Since the office has been moved closer and made more open, Shulman says she feels “more a part of stuff.”

This feeling is mirrored by several of the attendees to Friday’s event, including Sandra Wood, an Assistant Professor in the linguistics and ASL programs. Wood joined the staff in August, and thinks the space will be good for building a stronger sense of Deaf community on campus.

Nicole Stepensky, another ASL student who transferred

from another university, agrees with Wood. Stepensky says that the inclusion of a Deaf space shows that “Deaf people are equal,” and that her previous school did not have a space like this for linguistics students. “It’s awesome to have all your people together,” she says.

McDaniel says that that is the goal of the space, to have “a more open design, and be more communal.” There are kitchens in both 305 and 410 so that students can have lunch meetings, and the faculty are “here as resources” for students who may need help outside of class, or who want to discuss topics and ideas not covered in their courses.

The office spaces require key card access to use, but Kelly Fitzgerald, the Administrative Specialist for the department, can usually be found in 310 between 8 and 4:30. The spaces do not require reservations to be used, but to insure that the offices are unlocked you can email Dana McDaniel at dana.mcdaniel@maine.edu.

FP

Woodbury Campus Center houses safe space

The Multicultural Center a place of productive student interaction

Sarah O'Connor
Staff Writer

The Multicultural Center (MCC) is located at the Woodbury Campus Center at the Portland campus. Passing by, it seems like another study space, complete with computers and students working on their homework. However, the Center is more than that. According to Anila Karunakar, coordinator of multicultural student affairs, it is a “space where [students] can walk in and feel at home with each other.”

According to the USM website, the Multicultural Center’s purpose is to provide a supportive and diverse space for the USM community. It serves as a catalyst in providing a community for students of color. The space is open to all students, and diversity is key as it is the location of cultural activities, celebrations, and student organization meetings, such as the Multicultural Student Association.

For some students, like Abdi Dahir, the Center is a part of their everyday lives. Dahir goes to the MCC between each class, and he uses it “to kill time and unwind.” He sees a poor outcome if the Multicultural

Center ceased to exist.

“I would effect a lot of people [if it was closed],” Dahir said. “A lot of freshmen kids come here to gain knowledge, not just for school, but to get help getting to class.”

Karunakar sees the Multicultural Center as a good way for students to meet each other. She said, “The Center plays a key role in the success of students. There’s so much to be said about people who experience the same things as you. You will have people who get it. They don’t need to use so many words - they just get it.”

Abdi Atoor was at the Multicultural Center for the first time, and went to both study and hang out. His friends suggested he use the Center, where he also met them to socialize, and he immediately knew it was a “safe place” and that “anyone is welcome.”

Indeed, Karunakar made it clear that all who entered are welcome into the Center. She said, “Their accents, language, beliefs have a safe place in this space.”

Pdg Muhamiriza, Study Body President at USM, sees the Multicultural Center as having a vital role in the USM community to promote diversity and celebrate differences.

“It is imperative to not only understand the set of beliefs that our community of USM stands for as a whole,” Muhamiriza said, “but to also ensure that those beliefs precede every initiative we undertake or move we make. In that sense, the Multicultural Center is a successful example of how we put an emphasis on academic creativity that’s highly promoted by an increasing diverse population.”

Regarding how the Multicultural Center’s presence affects the community, Muhamiriza said, “This vibrant room in Woodbury campus center is the epitome of harmonious ways in which our different cultures intertwine at the University of Southern Maine and where we learn about the positive sides of history. Students from all over the world find shelter in the MCC, and its implication is major and we rely on it to shine the values of innumerable ideas shaped by miscellaneous experiences.”

The Multicultural Center has proved to provide much more than just computers and studying spaces, but the work is not over, according to Karunakar. Karunakar sees the Center as being student governing, so she hopes that its growth comes from the

students and they get what they hope for.

“We’re still in the works to make strategic programs, but it depends on what the students want,” she said. “We’re finding ways where students take the lead for that space and say, ‘this is what we want to do,’” She refers to the clubs and organizations that have roots in the Multicultural Center.

Pdg Muhamiriza said that both USM and student government support the Multicultural Center.

“The Administration and Student government are to applaud and recognize the MCC as a specially vital part of our university,” she said. “Its success means both a successful diversity campaign, and a successful University of Southern Maine.”

As such, the map Anila Karunakar ordered this summer will be put up for students to mark their homes, and the MCC will continue to grow from the work of MCC students and provide a safe space for all students that need it.

FP

Student senators discuss improvement projects

Printing, Sodexo and public relations image on the agenda

Jess Ward
News Editor

The Senate meeting this week, on Oct. 13, was held in Gorham, to discuss various Senate members’ projects on campus. The meeting was led by Muna Adan, President of the Senate, and covered topics ranging from internet speed on campus to parking accessibility.

As of now, Aaron Pierce, the Student Affairs Chair, is working towards introducing a printer station in Payson Smith, to offer students more convenient options in where they print. A printer was purchased by the Senate three years ago, but has not been used or made available. The cost of maintenance would fall on the Senate’s shoulders, as well as possibly acquiring a computer to have at the station. Senator Kyle Brundige is also working on a free printing initiative for students, so that the costly burden of printing papers and assignments would be alleviated.

Additionally, there have been several complaints from students about the internet quality on campus. Treasurer Jeffrey Ahlquist is in the beginning stages of solving these problems. However, the cost for a new or improved internet service on campus could be over \$300,000, which reaches far past the university’s budget. There is potential for a grant, likely from the state government, but as of Friday’s

meeting there are no senators willing to go through the writing process to request a grant, so it is uncertain as to how they plan to move forward.

The Senate’s Clerk, Joshua Blake, is working towards improving the food situation with Sodexo, in the hopes of offering students more of a voice in deciding their food options, as well as not requiring on-campus students to pay for a meal plan. Financially, a meal costs \$8.99 without a meal plan, but with the meal plan it averages out to \$10.99 a meal. Blake recognizes that this is not fair to students who have no choice but to pay for the meal plan, and is hoping to either work with Sodexo to lower prices or make meal plans optional.

There was also discussion around putting ballot boxes in the Gorham cafeteria, to give students voting options concerning the food that is available each week. Last year’s attempt to improve Sodexo’s quality was met with disappointment from many students, so Blake’s new approach will hopefully get to the root of these issues rather than resolving them on a surface level.

Senator Chase Hewitt is leading an initiative regarding parking and transportation for students, including working with the university to either make the parking garage inaccessible to non-students and faculty, or charging a fee for non-students to use the garage. This would make more parking spots available to students, which has been a con-

cern this semester. Currently the garage is a public space available to anyone, but Hewitt stated that potentially reintroducing the key card system, which required a student ID to access the garage, would make it a more student-centered facility.

The Senate is also in the process of organizing a “Meet your Senators” event, which will likely be held in the Gorham cafeteria or the Portland Woodbury Campus Center. This was decided in the hopes of encouraging the student body to be more involved in the Senate’s projects and functions, as well as answer some questions students may have about the purpose of the Senate and both the past and future decisions made.

It is clear that this year’s Senate has a lot of ideas on how to improve campus life for students, but it remains to be seen whether these ideas will result in actual change or merely float around the Senate until they are forgotten. While many of these projects are in their early stages, there are a plethora of obstacles to overcome for each of them. Hopefully USM’s Senate will not only attempt to enact change, but will prevail in supporting the needs of its student body.

Students are also welcome and encouraged to attend Senate meetings, the next of which is on Oct. 27 in Payson Smith 1. Questions or comments for the Senate can be submitted to usm.studentgovernment@maine.edu.

FP

Maine local political update

Jordan Castaldo
Staff Writer

State officials as of Oct. 8 include: Governor Paul R. LePage, Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap, Attorney General Janet T. Mills, State Treasurer Terry Hayes, and State Auditor Pola Buckley. The mayor of Portland is Ethan K. Strimling since 2015. Senators of the state of Maine are Senator Angus King and Senator Susan Collins. The representatives within the House are Chellie Pingree and Bruce Poliquin.

On Tuesday, Governor Paul LePage nominated Ricker Hamilton for health and human services commissioner after Mary Mayhew resigned this past June. Hamilton has been deputy commissioner of programs at the Department of Health and Human Service (DHHS) since 2013 and he has been named acting commissioner since Mayhew's resignation. Whoever wins the Nov. 2018 election for governor will get to decide whether or not Hamilton gets to keep his position as

DHHS commissioner.

Governor LePage also directed for all flags to be placed at half-staff Sunday Oct. 8th from sunrise to sunset, in honor of all of the fallen firefighters and to bring attention to Fire Prevention week. This was specifically to commemorate the 36th Annual National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend and Fire Prevention Week, as well as appreciate those who are still serving.

Stephen Bannon, President Donald Trump's former Chief Strategist, wants Ann LePage, the first lady of Maine, to run against Republican Senator Angus King in next year's election. King is up for reelection in next year's race. Ann LePage has been assisting Maine's military families, actively putting the "first lady" label to good use. LePage has not officially said to be running against King yet, but more to come shortly.

Senator Susan Collins has recently announced that she will not be running for Governor of Maine.

"I want to continue to play a key role

in advancing policies that strengthen our economy, help our hard-working families, improve our health care system, and bring peace and stability to a violent and troubled world and I have concluded that the best way that I can contribute to these priorities is to remain a member of the United States Senate." Collins informed a breakfast meeting in Rockport, Maine this past Friday.

Her decision not to run leaves an empty space for a Republican candidate to run for Governor for the 2018 election here in Maine. This also brings a great sense of relief to Democrats, who worried that Collins would not only win the votes of the Republicans, but also of the Independent voters as well, and would make it hard for them to elect a Democratic Governor into office. The Republicans have had the Governor seat since Governor Paul LePage won the election back in 2011. Collins will instead, achieve her fifth term as Senator of Maine, if she chooses to reelect in 2020.

FP

NEWS BRIEFS

LOCAL

Susan Collins says Trump's move to end Obamacare subsidies hurts 'vulnerable people'

BANGOR DAILY NEWS- U.S. Sen. Susan Collins said Sunday that she is "very concerned" about President Donald Trump's decision to stop payments to health insurers used to hold down insurance costs for low- and middle-income Americans.

"What the president is doing is affecting the ability of vulnerable people to receive health care right now," Collins, the senior senator from Maine, said during a Sunday morning appearance on CNN's "State of the Union."

Trump announced Friday that he would "immediately" halt payments to insurers, known as "cost sharing reductions," under the Affordable Care Act, a move hailed by many conservative groups

but criticized by health care and consumer groups.

Before his Friday announcement, Trump took to Twitter to blast the payments as "subsidies" to insurers: "The Democrats ObamaCare is imploding. Massive subsidy payments to their pet insurance companies has stopped. Dems should call me to fix!"

Collins challenged the president's characterization of the payments as a "wind-fall" to insurers.

"What this money is used for is to help low-income people afford their deductibles and their copays so that their health care is available to them," the Republican senator said.

The payments made to insurers to help them hold down copayments and deductibles for low- and middle-income Americans. It will cost about \$7 billion this year and help more than 6 million people, according to

the Associated Press.

NATIONAL

The Fire Is Roaring Over the Ridge. It's Time to Go.

NEW YORK TIMES-Blaring car horns warned of the rushing wildfires in Northern California last week. So did exploding propane tanks and police megaphones. The smell of smoke was a sign of what loomed on the horizon. Frantic banging on the door by neighbors was an indication that the fire was dangerously close.

Some of those who survived what is considered the deadliest outbreak of fire that the state has ever seen fled the flames with just seconds to spare. Behind them, in rearview mirrors or over shoulders, they saw their homes, possessions, entire neighborhoods consumed by the inferno.

They are left now with

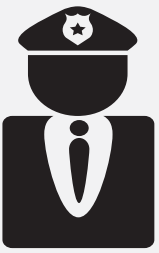
memories, intense ones, unforgettable ones, of relaxing quietly on a Sunday night one moment and running for their lives the next. What they cannot forget is the fire, it's quickness and heat, its smell and destructive nature. These are some of the stories of those who saw the fire and tried to outrace it:

They fled through smoke with flames on both sides of the road.

Brad Weinper, 64, a resident of a Santa Rosa subdivision where hundreds of houses burned, said neighbors were awakened by neighbors, barking dogs, police officers and exploding propane tanks.

"We heard constant explosions. The winds were so strong. Trash cans were blowing over," he said. "The police came by with a megaphone. They said, 'Evacuate now! Evacuate now!'"

FP



Police Beat

*Selections from the
USM Department of
Public Safety police log
Sept. 24 to Oct. 10*

09/24/2017

Don't toss your cookies!

Liquor law violation. Anderson Hall. Female student vomiting. Report taken. Conduct referral.

09/26/2017

McGregor vs. Mayweather

Disturbance in Brooks Student Center. Report of a fight in progress. Parties separated and left upon officer arrival. Case closed.

09/30/2017

Requesting backup...

Officer dispatched to Narganset Street for unwanted juvenile at the residence. Handled by GPD, assist only. Case closed.

10/04/2017

I said to stop calling!

Harassment complaint. Report of harassing emails. No crime.

10/06/2017

"Adrian! I did it!"

Disturbance, Woodward Hall. Report of a male screaming for another person. Subject left the area. Officer checked the campus but was unable to locate subject. No report.

10/07/2017

It's medicinal, I swear!

Drug violation G8 parking lot. Summons issued for a useable amount of marijuana by a minor. Cleared and closed.

Police Beats are edited for grammar and style.

Arts & Culture

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Movie Talk / 11



Photo courtesy of Regent Releasing



Photo courtesy of Mij Film



Photo courtesy of IndiePix Films

Iranian films in Maine as a window into Iran

Ben Theriault
Contributor

As part of this year's Convocation, USM will be hosting Maine's first Iranian film festival at the Wishcamper Center, starting Friday, Oct. 20. November 10, the event will instead be held at Maine College of the Arts. The festival will have a selection of two movies per date, starting at 5:30 p.m. for the first choice and 5:45 p.m. for the second for the following four Fridays. The screenings are free to the public.

USM Professor Reza Jalali grew up in a poor, rural village in Kurdistan on the border of Iran and Iraq. For media, his town had no libraries, no televisions and no trustworthy radio stations. This often made him feel isolated and disconnected from the rest of the world. Surrounded by turmoil, he and many other Iranians found solace in cinema. He stated that cinema was a window into the rest of the world for him—now he would like to create that same window into Iran.

Jalali, along with some of his film students will be organizing the event and will guide discussions post-screening. The festival will directly correspond with their class, HON 299: Cinema in Iran.

When asked to comment on the course, Tietze said, "I think doing so [enrolling in the course] has given me a more realistic idea of the Middle East...Watching these films showcases the intelligence and passion the people of Iran hold."

Former USM Student Body President Humza Khan, another HON 299 student, said, "The major take away for me has been that Iran is a significantly more diverse country than I expected and that the vast amount of negative information about the country is false."

The upcoming film festival provides the opportunity to see Iran through the work of some of its best directors, including many women filmmakers. The lineup consists of works from directors Abbas Kiarostami, Mohsen Makhmalbaf, Tahmineh Milani, Shirin Neshat, Jafar Panahi and more. Their films fall into the category of Iranian auteur cinema, due to their distinct style and subversive content.

Iranian auteur cinema—also known as Iranian new wave—is a movement that began in Iran during the mid-1960s. The genre was groundbreaking for its portrayal of average Iranian life. Before this shift, there were only far-fetched fantasies that provided no real relation to Iranian citi-

zens. With the emergence of Iranian new wave, Iranians were forced to come to terms with poverty and confront relevant issues in their country.

Unfortunately these actions bring severe consequences. Following the Islamic Revolution of 1979, under the strict supervision of the then supreme leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, extreme censorship regulations emerged.

Violation of these laws result in significant ramifications. A notable example is the sentence of six years imprisonment and a 20 year ban on filmmaking received by Jafar Panahi for the charge of "propaganda against the regime" in 2010—ultimately resulting in house arrest and eventual limited mobility. This prompted him to make the movie This is Not a Film, which he filmed during his house arrest and submitted to the Cannes Film Festival through a USB drive hidden in a cake.

While these restrictions were intended to stunt artistic expression, Iranian auteurs manipulated the situation to their favor. The stringent guidelines of the regime actually helped create the style that allows Iranian cinema to be so distinguished. These traits include: shooting film in a quasi-documentary style, using child actors for scenes of

affection, using nature as euphemisms for sexual situations, maintaining a realist perspective and focusing on rural life.

When asked what he hoped to achieve with the festival, Jalali admitted he went in with an agenda. He gave the following statement in regards to what he hopes the festival will bring: "Iranians have been dehumanized in the West since the revolution of 1979 and the hostage crisis. In this country we fail to make a distinction between the Iranian regime and Iranian people." He added, "looking at the them as barbarians, we think they are incapable of feelings and emotions—incapable of producing art and creating beauty."

Like this event, all future events of this year's Gloria S. Duclos Convocation are free to the public. The theme, which is "Race and Participatory Democracy" is expected to "generate conversations that are timely." With Middle Eastern misconceptions abound in our country, conversation is what we desperately need right now. For more information and to reserve a seat, call (207) 780-5798.

Good beats, barefeet and a missing remote

Keller Williams draws an eclectic crowd to his Oct 7 performance

Mary Ellen Aldrich
Arts & Culture Editor

Bare feet, high energy, contagious rhythm and a lot of talent. Keller Williams, a one man band, performed at Aura in downtown Portland as part of his Fall Tour 2017 on Oct. 7. The conglomerate gathering of people was evidence of Williams' ability to touch upon many flavors of music, including jazz, folk, electronica, funk and a few other genres. The set began with a dim light upon the center of the stage, highlighting Williams' few musical instruments which included a loop pedal, guitar, a stool and a microphone.

The time span between that first light adjustment and Williams actually stepping on stage was drawn out long enough to make the crowd antsy with anticipation. Williams' bare feet and the neck of his guitar were the first to appear from the edge of the curtains. The audience, previously in a hush, was sent into an excited uproar with a single strum from Williams' guitar. And with that, the night of good beats, curious lyrics and a great time began. After the first couple of songs, Williams' stopped to address the crowd with "Hi everybody, I love you all, I appreciate you. That is all." then the music returned to full power.

Williams' songs range from deep

and meaningful lyrics to surface level humorous jokes. With lyrics like "If I'm goin down, I'm goin down singin" from his song The Big One, a song about if he ever had a stroke and doing everything he wants to before time runs out, Williams' can take a serious topic and write a song that simultaneously has deep meaning and humor. This is a rather stark contrast to his song Missing Remote which is literally about how he lost his television remote one time when he put the remote, instead of the mayonnaise, into the refrigerator. It took him three days to find the remote.

Williams often danced to his own music while playing on stage, adding another

layer of energy and intrigue to his already phenomenal performance. The crowd, which included a bunny-costume wearing individual, danced, and many sang along, the entire evening.

Keller Williams has been at the music gig for about twenty-five years. He's partnered with other musicians, bands and groups over the years, and will continue to do so. He has a few portions of his tour coming up in which he'll be working with different bands and musicians. But he always goes back to his original group: his voice, his guitar, his loop pedal and his bare feet.

FP



Mary Ellen Aldrich / Arts & Culture Editor



Mary Ellen Aldrich / Arts & Culture Editor

Students make connections at Brewfest

Sam Margolin
Staff Writer

It was a crisp bright autumn Saturday at the Maine Lakes Brewfest at Point Sebago Camp Ground in Sebago, Maine. Over 3000 attendees came to sample beers from 31 different New England breweries and 15 local food vendors. While some of the more recognizable breweries were present such as Allagash, Shipyard and Sam Adams, brewfests like this provide a stage for smaller breweries such as newcomer Bear Bones Brewing from Lewiston or Bigelow Brewing from Skowhegan.

In its 14 years, the Maine Lakes Brew Fest has helped beer business become a thriving economic force in Maine. Accord-

ing to the Maine Brewers Guild, Maine has seen a 40 percent increase in breweries from 36 in 2004 to 89 in 2016. Volunteers such as Korey A. Morgan, a student at Tufts University and a native of Greenwood, Maine, are excited about events that celebrate the thriving beer culture in Maine.

"Brew festivals like the one on Sebago Lake," Morgan said, "are important platforms for small scale craft brewers and microbreweries that lack the resources to fund comprehensive marketing campaigns to interact directly with potential customers, and to raise awareness of their products."

The Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce sponsored the brewfest. Organizations such as this are crucial to connecting and exposing Maine

breweries in their communities. Sue Mercer, the Executive Director of the Chamber, said that the event benefits all the local businesses not just the breweries. "The brewfest brings people from as far away as Texas and North Carolina," Mercer said. For people to come for the beer and stay for everything else is the real goal of events like this. Connecting tourist attractions like breweries to the communities they live in benefits all facets of Maine's economy.

This idea was behind the creation of the University of Southern Maine's new Quality Control Laboratory, or QC2. The director of QC2, Lucille Benedict, an Associate Professor of Chemistry at USM, in collaboration with the Maine Brewers Guild, created the lab in March 2016. The Maine

Brewers Guild (MBG), headed by Executive Director, Sean Sullivan, is a nonprofit trade association working to promote and protect Maine's beer brewers. The MBG works with the government on issues that impact brewers and the beer business, acts as spokesperson for the industry and promotes brewers through unique events. The MBG helped create the lab to help Maine breweries have a place to test samples for quality control on a fee-per-sample basis as well as to provide training for brewers and future industry techs.

As the beer industry grows in Maine, the need to produce a consistent quality product becomes critical.

"This requires an understanding of the See **BREWFE**ST on page 10

A new look at peace

Author shares Toltec teachings

Mary Ellen Aldrich
Arts & Culture Editor

Many people set out to change the world. People will travel all over the earth to make a change, an impact. If you ask Miguel Ruiz Sr., Miguel Ruiz Jr. or Jose Ruiz, they'll tell you to look no further than yourself.

"The only world you can change," said Ruiz Sr., "is your world. The one you create."

Ruiz Sr. and his sons held a book talk at the Abromson center on USM's Portland campus Saturday night, October 14. About 450 people attended the event, which was focused on the discussion of Ruiz Sr.'s teachings within his book: *The Four Agreements*.

The four agreements of Toltec teachings are 1) be impeccable with your word. 2) don't take anything personally. 3) don't make assumptions. 4) always do your best. There is also a fifth agreement which was added by Ruiz Sr. and his son, Jose. 5) be skeptical, but learn to listen.

Ruiz Sr. proposed that everyone goes through life wearing a mask and faking an identity. Someone can convince themselves, and others, that they are who they think, but at some point they will come to the realization that they are acting. The Ruiz family said that when this realization takes place, one can then just exist as they are, rather than trying to live as some prescribed, specific being.

Respect was a major topic covered by the Ruiz family. But rather than starting with respect for others, they started with respect for oneself. They made the point that when people respect one another, it grants peace for all parties involved. However, if there isn't first respect for oneself, it won't be possible to respect others entirely well. Everyone should be respected and treated as equals, because

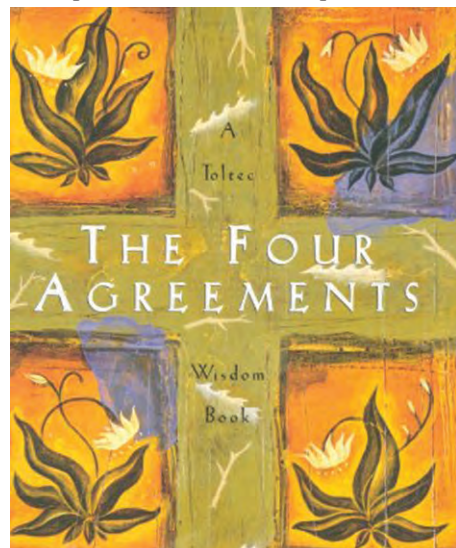


Photo courtesy of Miguel Ruiz Store

they are.

"You are my equal," said Ruiz Jr., "because you are alive at the same time as I am."

The Ruiz family members spoke in turns, each sharing their views and stories before stepping from the stage and allowing the next member to begin sharing their experience. While the content of each Ruiz's talk varied just as greatly as their styles and personalities, they seemed to be all like-minded in some aspects. Each of them wanted to share their beliefs which granted them such peace and comfort, and they hoped that, by doing so, they could prompt a change in each person's world.

Ruiz Sr. said that they brought a message of love to share with everyone. He also expressed that one doesn't need to know someone to love and respect them as a life, a human and an equal. Beliefs in general, in concern of the afterlife, range from believing in heaven and hell, to not believing in any sort of afterlife, to believing in reincarnation and many others. The Ruiz family believes that each person existed long before their physical form came into being, and that each person will continue to exist even after death.

Ruiz Sr. said, "you, life, are eternal. You can not be destroyed. Nothing can destroy you. You are immortal. Not your physical body, you, life."

Each person's physical form is thought to be driven by a force, and energy: life. And as physics teaches, energy cannot be destroyed, only transformed. In keeping with the Ruiz's discussion, even beyond death of the physical form, the energy, the life, will continue to exist for all of eternity.

Ruiz Sr. encouraged people to respect and honor themselves in order that they can then go out and honor and respect others. However, telling people what they should or shouldn't do is not usually effective. So instead, he suggested the age-old teaching of leading by example.

"They will learn not because you teach them," said Ruiz Sr., "but because they see what you do."

Inspiration was something Jose Ruiz discussed in a manner slightly different than usual. Rather than thinking of inspiration in terms of something you need in order to create a work of art, he spoke of it being essential to life.

"There are a lot of candles that have forgotten they are fire," said Jose Ruiz, "And fire is inspiration. Inspiration to live."

Miguel Ruiz Sr. closed the event by giving the audience both a gift and a mission:

"All my love, take it with you and share it with anyone who needs it...keep it up."

FP

From **BREWFEET** on page 9

science behind beer, and putting processes in place to ensure the beer, and the ingredients used to make beer are being tested before, during, and after the brewing process," Sullivan said.

The lab provides students with a unique experience where they can independently work on research projects and learn new techniques on how to test chemical materials such as beer.

Some students, like Nicolas Mesloh, a class of 2019 Human Biology Major, have research projects studying optimal brewing techniques in the QC2 lab. Mesloh is currently researching the effect of metal ions on the physiology of brewers' yeast, and the effect on fermentation and growth



Photo courtesy of USM website

rates.

"Research gives me an opportunity to apply what I am learning in my coursework at USM. It's a good motivator; working in a lab makes high-level academics immediately relevant to my day-to-day life," said Mesloh.

The lab also provides testing for local breweries at a fraction of the cost of other professional testing companies. Professor Benedict said, "students gain lab skills, experience similar to internships, communication, and public speaking skills and get to experience how to write grants and research papers. For the breweries, this lab provides a resource for quality control testing and education." The lab has future plans to expand testing services for brewers as well as create more opportunities for students from a variety of majors to help run the lab.

Sean Sullivan is looking to the future of the industry by trying to overcome some of the potential hurdles. "We are in the golden age of beer right now, and the biggest problem most Maine brewers have is making enough beer to meet demand," Sullivan said, "that said, certain regulatory issues, supply chain challenges and threats of the conglomerate brewers like AB-In-Bev and SAB Miller threaten our growth."

As the Maine brew business becomes a staple in the Pine Tree State, the future looks promising as long as community leaders, educators, students and brewers continue to work together.

FP

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MOVIE TALK

2049: A well deserved sequel

The new Blade Runner movie hits the mark

Daniel Kilgallon
Staff Writer

Let's face the truth; blockbusters in Hollywood have basically become an endless string of reboots, sequels, or adaptations of popular source material. I can't stand this lack of creative storytelling in the mainstream movie industry and I think it is just about time for studios to stop throwing together rehashes or continuations of classic stories. *Blade Runner 2049* easily could have suffered from this and joined a trashy group of 80's reboots series such as *Terminator*, *Ghostbusters*, and *Robocop*. Luckily, the right people were involved in the project and avoided that completely; this film may be a modern classic when 2049 comes around.

1982's *Blade Runner* has gained cult classic status in the thirty five years since its release and there have been a shocking seven cuts of the movie shown during that time. I have only ever seen 2007's *The Final Cut*, the most recent edit and director Ridley Scott's definitive version of the film. Scott returned in the role of an executive producer for this sequel and critically acclaimed filmmaker Denis Villeneuve (*Prisoners*, *Arrival*) signed on to direct. *Blade Runner 2049* picks up thirty years after the events of the first movie and once again depicts a grim, futuristic version of Los Angeles in which agriculture is all but lost.

Anyone familiar with the *Blade Runner* universe knows that it revolves around "replicants"; androids that perform slave labor for humans and are nearly identical in appearance. In the first film, replicants were banned from Earth due to their violent acts, and it was the responsibility of "blade runners" such as Rick Deckard (Harrison Ford) to assassinate or "retire" those who returned to the planet. In 2049, Ryan Gosling assumes the same duty in the role of LAPD Officer "K". However, the approach of authorities changed



Photo courtesy of Warner Brothers

over the years, and K is part of a new breed of replicants assigned to kill older, outlawed models of their own kind. Eventually, K uncovers a shocking secret that traces back to Deckard and forces him out of hiding.

In order to resurrect an old story through a contemporary sequel, the universe needs to be supplemented and the story must be built upon. Many reboot films fall incredibly short in this sense, as they simply modernize the visuals and retell old stories. *2049* functions excellently in evading these tropes and adds even more depth to the already rich universe that was established in the original movie. I would say that the world building present is even more impressive than the ground-breaking visual effects and camera work on display from legendary cinematographer Roger Deakins.

Just like the original, *Blade Runner 2049* leaves plenty of room for interpretation, particularly in the area of social implications. For example, parallels have been drawn between exploited social classes and the ways in which replicants are used for manual labor in the films. Another idea that the replicants bring to the table is the question; what does it mean to be human? The interactions between K and his love interest in

2049 allude to some of the answers to this. She is a holographic woman named Joi (Ana de Armas) who lives at home with him and their deep relationship suggests a greater sense of emotional capacity for artificial intelligence. It is also worth noting that one of K's opponents in the film is a female replicant named Luv. It became quite clear to me that K's inner conflict revolves around these two characters and the themes that their names explicitly represent; joy and love.

Putting aside personal interpretations, I would highly recommend any movie fan to check out *Blade Runner 2049* on the biggest screen available, because as mentioned before, the visual effects are absolutely ground-breaking. However, it is the rich story and incredible characters that set this film apart from other blockbusters and I know that there is plenty more to unravel from the dark dystopia depicted. If Hollywood studios can't escape the sequel syndrome, they had better take notes and learn from this modern masterpiece.



A&C Listings

Monday, October 16

Screening: Daughters of the Dust
USM Portland Campus
Talbot Lecture Hall
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17

Port Veritas Spoken Word Open Mic: Tony Brown
Bull Feeney's
375 Fore St., Portland
Starts: 7:30 p.m. / Ends: 10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

Resonance and Memory: Essence of Landscape
USM Gorham Campus
Art Gallery
Starts: 12:00 p.m. / Ends: 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 19

Leslie Odom Jr.
Merrill Auditorium
20 Myrtle St., Portland
Starts: 7:30 p.m. / Ends: 9:00 PM

Friday, October 20

Circus on the Point
Circus Maine
4 Thompson's St., Portland
Starts: 7:00 p.m. / Ends: 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 21

Henry David Thoreau and Maine
USM Portland Campus
7th Floor Glickman Library
Starts: 9:30 a.m. / Ends: 6:00 p.m.

Want to submit an event?
maryellen@usmfreepress.org

Perspectives

Staff Story



Maverick Lynes / Staff Writer

One man, one concert, four baseball games and 2043 miles

Maverick Lynes
Staff Writer

I am from Edmonton, a city in Alberta, Canada, and I drove 44 hours to get to the University of Southern Maine. Yes, you read that correctly, 44 hours from the other side of the continent, by myself, without cruise control. The only things I had concerning company were a ton of podcasts (Joe Rogan and Swords and Scale) and a music playlist that was carefully constructed for months in preparation for the road trip. I mean, this playlist had everything: J. Cole, Childish Gambino, John Mayer, Simple Plan, Broadway Cast of Hamilton and, yes, the Jonas Brothers were on there. I am a 90s kid who loved Camp Rock and High School Musical...SUE ME! Show me a 90s kid who says they have not jammed to “Burnin’ Up,” and I will show you a liar.

Where was I? Oh yeah...44-hour drive, no cruise control. Sounds like a nightmare, right? It was one of the best experiences of my life, and I will tell you why.

Day one of my adventure: I drove sixteen

hours to Dickinson, North Dakota—this was the part of the drive that had the best scenery during the whole journey. Other than that, sixteen hours of straight driving was awful.

Day two: I drove to Saint Paul, Minnesota, to meet with a friend who lives there. That day we went to a Minnesota Twins game. Quick backstory: I love baseball, and an item on my bucket list is to visit every baseball park. So, this was an excellent start to my trip.

Day three: still in Minnesota, and guess who happens to be in town? Yes, you got it, Kendrick Lamar. My friend and I are in like Flynn, we get the cheapest tickets we can find and head to the Xcel Energy Center. The seats are pretty high up; we can feel a nosebleed coming. Naturally, we try our luck at sneaking down to the lower bowl. Now, this concert is sold-out, but we take the risk. At this point, the openers are still on. We were getting ourselves into a big game of musical chairs. However, in this game, people kick you out if you are in their seat. We find empty seats to the right of the stage; we enjoy a couple of songs, then we hear the dreaded “these are our seats,” and we played it off like we had

no idea. Though our confidence was shot, our determination was not. We go down a row where there are five vacant seats, and we set up camp. Luckily, for us, nobody came to kick us out during the entire show. It was the best concert I have ever seen and the greatest seat jump that I have ever accomplished.

Day four: I wake up at 3:45 A.M. and head to Chicago, Illinois, to meet with a family friend and watch the Chicago Cubs take on the Toronto Blue Jays. As a baseball fan who has always wanted to see a game at Wrigley Field, it made waking up at 3:45 A.M. a lot easier. We are heading to the field, and I am fully prepared to bargain for a ticket. By fully prepared, I mean prepared to pay overprice for a ticket because I am terrible at bargaining. Luckily for me, I never had to bargain—the guy I was going to the game with had two tickets to give away and I was the lucky recipient of one. Since I only needed the one ticket, what else was there to do but sell the other? Dang, that guy got a great deal, too. Row 14, down the first base line at Wrigley, I was in a trance, and it was one of the greatest times of my life.

Day five: I head to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and watch the Pittsburgh Pirates against the Los Angeles Dodgers all by myself for the insane price of three dollars. The best part about my seats was that the man in front of me was showing off a significantly unfortunate amount of butt crack. You would be surprised as to how hard it is to focus on a baseball game when there is a full moon blocking your sight to the pitcher. Aside from that, the game was great.

Day six: I drive to Baltimore, Maryland, to see my family and watch the Baltimore Orioles play the Oakland Athletics. They are my favorite team, so watching them play was another item off my bucket list. They won 6-2, it was a great way to cap off my great American road trip.

Day seven: I headed to school, and it was the end of my cross-continent road trip. My 2008 car, with crank windows and average air conditioning, made it through the whole 44 hours. In all, I traveled 3,288 kilometers (2043 miles) alone, and I wish I could do it all over again.

This Week at Winchester

The unpopular opinion: why I agree with the U.S. legal drinking age

Julie Pike
Staff Writer

I have to admit that one of the many reasons why I was excited to study abroad was to get to be in a country where the legal drinking age was 18. I have less than a year left till I turn 21, but I was looking forward to the thought of having a drink with dinner, or being able to go out to a pub.

Here I am in England, where it's practically normal to drink wherever, whenever, and however much you want. It's been over three weeks since I've left home, and since then I've enjoyed having a beer while out at a restaurant, or trying a fancy mixed drink at a pub.

The other students at this university however, like to drink quite a bit more. As an international student I unfortunately got stuck in a dorm that is mainly for first years. So that means I am surrounded by dozens of newly turned 18 year olds, enjoying their freedom away from home, which includes lots of drinking and going out.

It's common for students to go out and drink on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday here. Whereas those nights I'd prefer to go to bed early, an option that's not possible in my dorm. Often I'll wake up to students coming back from the club in the early hours of the morning, yelling, singing, basically being as loud as they please.

I've even been woken up by a group of kids deciding to play a prank on people, by knocking on their door and yelling "housing." As someone in their junior year, I'm a little sick of that kind of behavior.

While I'm sure being able to drink at their age is all fun and good for them, I can't help but imagine, when do they get any school work done? When do they ever sleep?

Now since the legal drinking age here is 18, that also leaves the door open for universities to host parties on campus, because basically every student here is of legal drinking age. At the University of Winchester alone there are three bars on the main campus, not to mention the countless options in town.

The University of Winchester Student Union hosts parties almost every weeknight at the club on campus. It makes me wonder why the university would want students to be up late partying on a school night, when I'm sure many of those students have class the next morning. It seems like it's just setting these students up to skip their lectures because they'll be too hungover.

On one hand I think it's great that the university offers students a safe way to be able to drink and have fun while remaining on campus, but it just doesn't seem logical to hosts these parties on a weekday.

The vastly different drinking culture here in England makes me think about whether or not having a younger legal drinking age is worth it. To me it seems as if these students are too immature to be able to spend every night out late killing their livers. I haven't even been able to drink in my country legally yet and I already feel more laid back about it. At my age I have no interest in getting wasted night after night.

With age comes maturity, and that's why to me I think it makes sense to have the legal drinking age to be 21. I can't imagine how



Photo courtesy of Winchester Student Union

the constant nights out drinking affects their grades and performance in class. An older drinking age could help these young students do better in their first years of university.

Back in the states I never thought I would be someone to vouch for the drinking age to remain at 21. I always wanted that independence. I wanted to go to bars in the Old Port, be able to order a drink in a restaurant, or to simply feel that I was a true adult.

The truth is that being able to drink does not equate to being a responsible adult, even if you are over 18 or 21 years old. An adult needs to be mature enough to realize that there are

more important things in life than being able to go out drinking and partying, such as your education and future career.

At the age of 21, young adults are generally more equipped to take on the responsibility of being able to drink. And it truly is a responsibility, you need to know your limits and know what the effects of drinking too much can do to you, something that 18 year olds are often not prepared for. Having this experience in another country makes me grateful that I grew up in America. If I had grown up in England, my experience at university would be very different.

FP

Student Perspective

The greatest of these is love: Christianity's original foundation

Mary Ellen Aldrich
Arts & Culture Editor

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

Those are the words of the apostle Paul, as recorded in the New International Version (NIV) translation of the Christian Bible in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8. Love, which is the original basis of Christianity, seems to be left by the wayside far too often in today's world. Christians, non-Christians and anyone in between, we are all guilty of forgetting to love sometimes.

A man, who called himself a Christian,

came to USM's Gorham campus on Tuesday, October 10, Wearing a sandwich board, a go-pro mounted on his chest, and yielding a duct-taped Bible, the man drew a sizable crowd to the lawn near Brooks Student Center. Freedom of speech is important to me, as a Christian, as a member of the Free Press and as a human. I have no problem with the fact that this man wanted to share his opinion and views. What infuriated me was the fact that this man was warping not only the words of the Bible, but also the entire concept, point and meaning of what it is to be a Christian. His approach was entirely contradictory to what it should be as a Christian. The more he spoke, the more I wanted to take that sandwich board of his, which was plastered with labels like "pot smoking little devils," "sports nuts" and "Mormons" and fold him up in it. However, that would not be loving.

A few students started making comments

like "if you're what Christians are like, they're nothing I want to be associated with at all." Unfortunately that is the impression many people have of Christians because what people see most are extremists who claim to be Christian, but then act entirely opposite of what it means to be Christian.

A Christian is someone who has a relationship with Christ, believes in Him, believes in God. Someone who strives to follow Christ and live as Christ lived. Jesus taught with love. He treated everyone with respect and kindness. He didn't yell slurs at people. He didn't scream erratically when someone disagreed with Him. When Jesus was asked "of all the commandments, which is the most important?" (Mark 12:28, NIV) He answered, "The most important one is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind

and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)

The outcasts of society were Jesus' friends. He sat and ate dinner with them. He defended people from those who wanted to stone, or otherwise injure, someone for whatever their sin was. Compassion, love, kindness, understanding, patience, gentleness— those are the things that Jesus taught. That is how everyone should be treated, how everyone should act. That is what it is to be Christian. Though as humans, Christians are not perfect and will fail. But no one is better than, or of more value than, anyone else.

"And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13, NIV)

FP

Advising Advice

Tutoring services updates the study body on new changes

Naamah Jarnot

Coordinator of Tutoring Services

Greetings, Huskies! I am delighted to join the University of Southern Maine community as the new Coordinator of Tutoring Services. Many Free Press readers may already be familiar with the Learning Commons, but if you have visited our space or used our services before, do not flip this page (or scroll down) just yet, as we have some new and exciting developments to share.

To recap for anyone new to the University, the Learning Commons is an open space designed to foster collaborative and active learning that is filled with moveable tables, rolling whiteboards, and plush furniture. In addition to subject-based tutoring, we offer help with time-management and study skills, technology assistance, and research guidance, as well as reservable group study spaces and access to communi-

ty computers. Although physically located in the Bailey Hall Library in Gorham, and the Glickman Library in Portland, many of our services (including tutoring!) are also available online.

We have experienced a tremendous amount of growth recently, both in terms of personnel and support. Thanks to ongoing partnerships with academic departments across the University, we now have over 60 tutors who have completed a nationally-accredited training program and are able to provide assistance in numerous subject areas. In addition to math, science, and writing, we are thrilled to share that all School of Business tutoring is now located at the Learning Commons, with expanded offerings in accounting, finance, and economics. We are currently piloting Psychology 101 tutoring, as well.

In terms of graduate-level support, we now have two graduate writing assistants who are available to work with students on

all types of writing—essay assignments, literature reviews, research papers, and more. Both our graduate and undergraduate level writing tutors are trained to help at all stages of the writing process, whether you are just starting to generate ideas or have a completed draft. Although tutors do not edit or proofread, they will work with a student collaboratively, provide feedback, and offer strategies for becoming a stronger and more effective writer.

In fact, we have grown so much that we have increased our physical footprint! All math and science tutoring in Portland is now on the third floor of the Glickman Library and in the STEM Assistance Room on the first floor of Bailey Hall in Gorham.

We are expanding our online presence as well. Our website (usm.maine.edu/learningcommons) is chock full of helpful content, ranging from how-to videos (e.g. “Skills for Acing Math” or “Navigating Blackboard”) to tips on how to work effec-

tively in groups. Be sure to follow us on Facebook (@USMLearningCommons) for live updates, fun contests, and important announcements.

Whereas the Writing Center at USM’s Lewiston-Auburn College was a separate entity, it is now being incorporated into the library, and moving towards a Learning Commons model. Any current USM student can work with a tutor in Gorham, Portland, Lewiston-Auburn, or online. To view the schedule or book an appointment, visit our website. Any courses for which tutoring is offered are listed on the site, and updated each semester. If the course you are looking for is not included, we suggest reaching out to your professor to see what is available to you at the department level or giving us a call. The more we know about your needs, the better we can serve you in the future.

We hope to see you in the Learning Commons soon!

FP

Picture Worth 1000 Words

Culture shock can happen even when you move across the state

James Fagan

Staff Photographer

I am a first year student at the University of Southern Maine, and the changes that I have had since coming here are probably the most abrupt changes I had in my life. This does not only apply to how much I read books of my choosing, the amount of time that I spend sleeping and, sadly, most of all, how much time I spend with my Golden Retriever. There are also many other changes, such as the amount of time I spend on a bus and a renewed search for music to listen to. Moving from such a small place to such a new and big place as USM, and especially Portland, has been a vast change in, not only my habits but in my lifestyle, as well.

I come from a small town, with a population of about 4,200, in Central Maine called Dover-Foxcroft. Dover-Foxcroft is host to a semi-private high school that has students from the surrounding towns and a dorm for students from different countries. Despite having students from different towns, and even different countries, everyone in Dover-Foxcroft seems to know one another. If I were to look into a crowd in Dover-Foxcroft, nine times out of ten, I could walk into the crowd and start a conversation. No matter how much I love college so far, that is not always something I can do in Port-

land. While I love meeting new people, sometimes seeing a familiar face is nice, too.

Coming to a place as big as Portland has been a huge change in the type and size of community that I am used to. USM is very different from small town Maine because if you want to go out for the day, you can. Where I am from, you have to take a forty minute drive to get to the nearest Walmart, which many people have to go to in order to get their weekly groceries. When you are in Portland, you can feasibly get a Subway sandwich, some Halloween decorations from Target and go shopping with some friends at the Maine Mall in the same day.

Another big difference between living in Dover-Foxcroft and living in a place like USM is the amount of cars and traffic. Dover-Foxcroft has two stoplights throughout the entire town, not much traffic to stop at those lights and it is small enough to walk just about anywhere in the town that you want to go. In Portland, if you want to go somewhere, you may have to take a bus or get a ride from a friend. In Dover-Foxcroft if you see a car, it is either in a driveway or en route to its destination. When you are in Portland, cars line the sidewalk with no one in them, waiting for the owner to have use for them.

Though living in a small town in central Maine and living near Maine’s biggest city



James Fagan / Staff Photographer

has, thus far, proven to be very different, there are several ways in which these two different settings have been very similar. No matter where I have been in Maine, most people are incredibly welcoming. Anywhere you go across the pine tree state, people are willing to help. Multiple times since coming to USM, I have seen people offer to help change a flat tire in the parking lot outside of the Woodbury Campus Cen-

ter. I have seen students start study groups to help others pass their exams. And even just last week, my sociology class explained what “the door yard” is to our professor from out of state. So sure, Dover-Foxcroft is very different from the USM community, but in some ways—in the important ways—the people in these distinct places share the same spirit of community.

FP

Student Perspective

Why was he allowed to do this?

Devyn Adams
Contributor

Growing up gay and trans in rural Maine was like growing up without a voice. It meant learning “gay” was a thing you’d be vilified for before even coming out to yourself.

It meant going through twelve years of state-mandated curriculum that never once told you of the brave people who fought for and rioted for people like you. It meant something as simple as wearing nail polish, at once, simply didn’t feel safe until I left my home.

That brings me to last Tuesday, when I was on my way to get my first manicure.

I was leaving the dining hall in Gorham that afternoon and couldn’t help but notice a small crowd of people had gathered. I came closer, and that’s when I saw it: a sign reading “Warning:”, “sex addicts”, “baby killers”, “rebellious women”, and “drunkards”, “God’s Judgment is Coming”, and “homo” with a slash through it.

Nevermind who held that sign, his word spoke for himself. Immediately I heard him throwing out homophobic attacks at students embracing their partners and holding their pride flags in protest, sexually harassing young women for their appearance, and even insinuating that, had public safety not been

nearby, students would sexually assault him.

To which the crowd cried a triumphant “Huskies give consent!”

All the while I couldn’t help but wonder, “Why was he allowed to do this?”

Why was it that a non-student could come onto our campus, our home, and commit such violence against us? Why was it that a student’s pride flag, a symbol of strength and love for many in my community, was considered a weapon when this man had an actual weapon openly displayed on his person? Why was he not asked to leave yet repeated attempts were made to make students leave?

At what point is this a man exercising his first amendment rights or is this a heterosexual, cisgender, white, male exploiting his privilege to commit an act of violence, because it should be painstakingly obvious this was the later.

We as a university must decide for ourselves where that point lies, and realise that divide exists on a continuum biased towards those who have the most.

I know where I stand on free speech, and the next time someone spreads hate on campus you’ll find me with glistening, lacquered nails, holding my communities symbol of pride, and defending my right to live and pursue happiness.

FP



James Fagan / Staff Photographer



Sustainability and ME

How living sustainably can save you money

Asia DiBenedetti
Contributor

One of the hardest challenges as a college student is saving money. Having sustainable habits is great for the environment, but it can keep some cash in your wallet, too. Instead of spending extra money purchasing new items, if you reduce, reuse and recycle, you can keep that extra money for yourself.

Invest in reusable coffee cups and water bottles. Did you know that bringing your own reusable mug to any of the dining facilities on the University of Southern Maine campuses can get you a discount on coffee? If you are an everyday coffee drinker, this can save you a big chunk of change in the long-run. Not only does the University offer discounted coffee for those who bring a reusable mug, but other popular places, such as Starbucks, Dunkin’ Donuts, Cumberland Farms, 7-11 and plenty of others do, too. Just ask! Bottled water can also rack up a lot of money, especially if you are going to a place or event where they are ridiculously overpriced. Instead of buying packages of bottled water, just purchase a reusable bottle once and fill it up. USM has filtered water fountains all over its campuses.

If you have to use a single-use bottle, redeem it. If you are from out-of-state then there is some good news for you; take advantage of Maine’s Beverage Container Redemption Program.

Instead of throwing out your plastic bottles, keep them, and bring them to a bottle redemption center in exchange for cash. That could be enough to fill your gas tank or pay for groceries, just by recycling.

Buy electronic textbooks instead of paper textbooks. E-textbooks are often significantly cheaper than buying a hardcover or loose leaf textbook. This helps to create less paper waste and is not dependent on deforestation.

Take notes on your computer instead of on paper. Again, less paper waste, and there is less risk losing your notes if they are saved on your computer. Does taking notes by hand help you remember? If you have a tablet or touch screen device, use a stylus and write your notes using a drawing or note taking app. If your heart is set on paper, pull some out of the recycling bin and use the back. Paper that is still

good on one side is known as GOOS paper.

Buy used instead of new. Be it books, furniture or second-hand clothes, you will not have to pay full-price for something that will still give you the same use. If you reuse it instead of buying it new, that is less overproduction and depletion of natural resources. If you are worried about aesthetics, a lot of used items have an appealing uniqueness to them.

Bike, walk or carpool. Paying for gas can certainly leave your wallet empty, especially if you do not live on campus, let alone the costs of maintaining your vehicle during all four seasons. Instead of driving yourself, find someone you can commute with. Go Maine is a great resource if you are not sure where to look. Their website is www.gomaine.org. This service allows you to choose Point A to Point B and gives you a list of carpooling rides and their schedules. Try using the METRO bus system in Portland, Uber or if you live close enough, walk or bike to campus. You will get more exercise and reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

Reduce your overall consumption. The less you consume, the less you spend. If you do not need it, do not buy it. At one time or another, all of us have bought things that we did not need impulsively that we never ended up using. Of course, that is better said than done, but your bank account will thank you later for it.

These are just a few ways that sustainable habits can help you save money for other things that

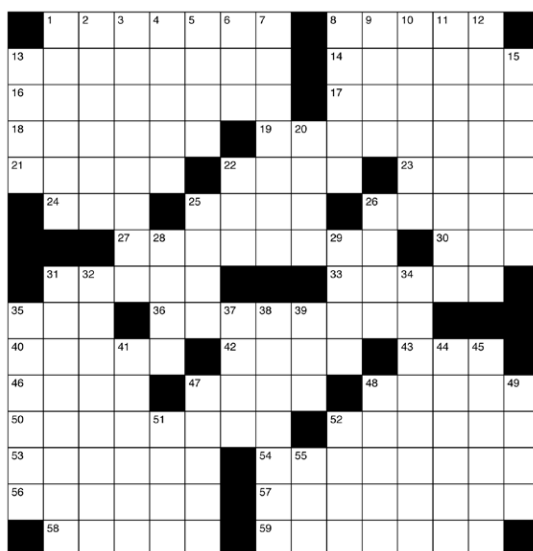
you need, but there are plenty more out there or you can create your own. Our overconsumption as Americans is a primary cause of the overuse and depletion of resources that are degrading our environment. These seemingly small choices added up have a greater impact that leads to deforestation and habitat loss, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change, water and food shortages, contaminated soil, air pollution and many other dangerous consequences. By changing your daily habits, you can reduce your impact on the planet and set an example for others for what it means to live sustainably.

FP

Crossword

Across

1. Conventioneer's wear
8. Process ore
13. Site of a pivotal 1777 battle
14. More comfy and cozy
16. Martial art form
17. Talk aimlessly
18. City north of Leon
19. Gelded
21. Canada fliers
22. Run ____ (owe)
23. Vietnamese new years
24. Q-U link
25. Garden buzzers
26. That's why they call ____ blues
27. Good Humor product
30. ____ certain extent
31. Provoke, as wrath
33. Men in blue
35. "It's ____-brainer"
36. Creator of some banks
40. Pumps and platforms
42. Kind of herring
43. Chic no more
46. It lies on the beach
47. One mo
48. Hoodwinks
50. Like some motives
52. Shower problem
53. Bridled
54. "Grey's Anatomy" star
56. Weasel with a white winter coat
57. ____ ballot
58. Religious spinoffs
59. Less long



Down

1. Less worldly
2. ____ Army (Palmer's fans)
3. Like purple mountains?
4. Technique-teaching composition
5. Noted movie terrier
6. Gonzales and Reno (abbr.)
7. More emaciated
8. Brush mix?
9. Trench
10. Daniel Decatur ____, minstrel who wrote "Dixie"
11. Wagner opus
12. Fundraising event
13. Neck, in Northampton
15. Biblical short cut
20. Alleviate
22. Nuclear org. ended in 1974
25. Neutral capital
26. West's " ____ Angel"
28. Utter an expletive
29. New Year's song word
31. Asthma sufferers' needs
32. When the sun is at its zenith, generally
34. "Might want to rethink that"
35. State confidently
37. Scapola or clavicola
38. Recognizing that
39. ____-Man
41. Paraisical
44. New piece of info
45. High school student
47. White House workers
48. Kitchen gadget
49. ____ Pea (Popeye's boy)
51. Hire out
52. Japanese soup ingredient
55. President before JAG

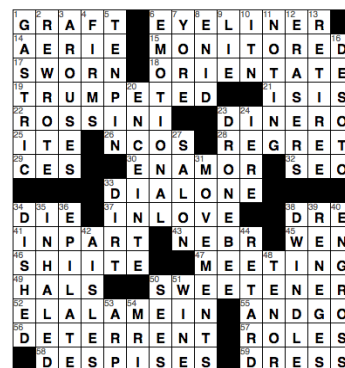
Cryptogram

Every letter in a cryptogram stands for another letter. Use the hint to crack the code.

U GKYI YCGMMIL E XEHEXFSI VUSJ E
WGUKSIC, EKL EHH SJES CIMFHSIL VEM E
XGGS WGUKS.

And here is your hint:
I = E

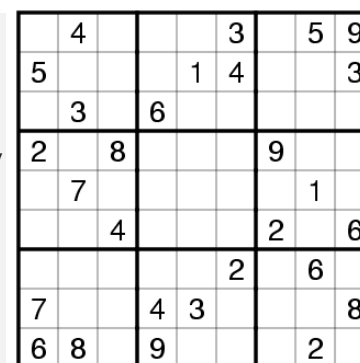
The solution to last issue's crossword



Sudoku

Level of difficulty: Hard

The object of a sudoku is to fill in the remaining squares so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains each of the numbers from 1 to 9 exactly once.



Word Search

Theme: Social Media

Search for the list of words in the grid of letters. Grab a pen and circle each word as you find them.



Curious Cat
Facebook
Flickr
Google Plus
Instagram
LinkedIn
MySpace
Pinterest
Reddit
Skype
Snapchat
SoundCloud
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USM Community Page

Glickman Library to host series of game nights

Emily Bernhard organizes event and increased board game collection

Dionne Smith
Community Editor

Glickman Library plans to lure in more students and offer some fun with board game nights on Mondays. The month-long pilot, beginning Oct. 23, will start with board game nights every Monday with raffles, food, and plenty of games to play. Osher Map Library will also be contributing with a night of playing antique board games that Osher has.

The library, as of recently, has recently been going through different changes in order to gain more regular traffic and to appeal to more students. The new Starbucks in Glickman was the library's latest upgrade, and now they look to improve upon their upgrades with board games. The Library purchased ten board games that will be on reserve for students to book a room and play board games in.

These board games are not only for the students, but staff and faculty as well. Accord-

ing to Emily Bernhard, the coordinator for the Center for Technology Enhanced Learning, there are people who work in both Glickman and Osher that enjoy playing games, as well as gaming experts that work at USM. Mary Holt, the admin for the Center of Collaboration and Development, and a library assistance in Special Collections is one of the staff in Glickman that is a gamer. "If you're a student that commutes and you have a couple hours between classes, [it] might be nice to have something to do," Holt said. Holt also expressed that she hoped the games would help the staff in the library communicate with each other more often. People are encouraged to bring their own board games if they want to, and to invite their friends that don't attend USM.

The hope for this pilot is to create a stronger sense of community on campus by allowing students to enjoy some time together playing games. Especially on the Portland campus where it is harder to take the time

to build friendships because people usually go to class then go home, or they stay to themselves. This is also a great alternative for students, faculty and staff who don't want to spend any money in Portland eating out or drinking. The game nights will also help bring balance to both campuses. Usually Gorham has different types of nights for games, decorating, and holiday related events. With the option to play board games for free in Glickman, this gives students more of an incentive to stay on campus when they have some free time.

Osher Map Library wishes to aid Glickman in this gaming pilot, and are offering a night for students to play a selection of the antique board games about geography that Osher has, which is approximately 140 board games. Ian Fowler, the director of Osher Map Library stated that the board games thus far have been used in classes in a much smaller capacity, and the game night that Osher will be hosting with their collection of games will

be the first time that the games will be out for public play in a large scale. Fowler also says that there will be a theme between all the board games that are brought out. "It's something that we wanted to do for a while so it just so happens to coincide with Glickman games night," Fowler said. Along with a fun selection of games, the antique board games will serve as an interesting history lesson for the people who will be playing it. The games themselves have interesting backgrounds that tie into the times that they were made and what was going on.

If the pilot goes well, the Glickman would be happy to take suggestions on games that the students want, and continue to keep the board games on reserve for students. It is also possible that there could be video games as well as board games if the students ask for it. "The hope is the Monday nights become game nights at Glickman," Bernhard said.

FP



Photo courtesy of Glickman Library



People of USM Leroy Rowe

Kate Rogers
Staff Writer

Professor Leroy Rowe has been teaching African American history at USM since 2012. Not only does he bring important course topics to the table, but he is an active faculty member at USM, contributing greatly to USM's journey towards reaching its full potential.

Originally from Jamaica, Rowe came to Brooklyn, New York at 17. He wasn't there for long. "My mother didn't like the idea of growing a young black male in Brooklyn," he said, "so she moved." He finished high school in Plainfield, New Jersey, and then got into Lincoln University in Missouri on a track scholarship. He finished his undergraduate degree there and went on to get his master's and Ph.D. in history at the University of Missouri.

During his undergrad, Rowe said he was interested in Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, wanting to write a book on Hamilton's childhood in the West Indies. That never happened and instead he became immersed in African American history, deciding to make that his main focus.

When he began applying for jobs, he and his wife decided they wanted to be back East where they had family. He landed in Maine because the job at USM would allow him to teach what he wanted and develop courses in his expertise. Since being at USM, many things have reinforced his decision to come to Portland.

Rowe praised his department, noting its supportiveness and its professors' ability to work together well. The best thing though, he said, was his experience in the classroom.

"What I've enjoyed particularly most about here is that I get students in my classroom...who have never been engaged with the subject matters before, who have never taken African American history, but are motivated by what they see in the news, what they see in the papers, what they hear on social media...and want to know more...There is a lack of knowledge but a willingness to learn," Rowe said. He said that he is motivated by this attitude from his students.

He is also encouraged by the fact that he sees students come back and take more of his classes. "You're doing something well when you continue



Photo courtesy of USM Photo Bank

to have the same students come back and when you see your evaluation where students are pointing out that they have been enlightened," he said. This is one of the main things Rowe tries to do in his classroom. Instead of trying to pass things on to students, he said, "I give students the pathway to be enlightened. I try my best to create conditions and to present materials where students can understand how and why we are where we are today."

Alongside teaching, Rowe has served as the co-chair of the intercultural diversity council, and on the advisory board for the African American Collection of Maine at the Sampson Center. He was one of the two faculty members who proposed this year's theme for convocation, race and participatory democracy.

On the subject of convocation and USM's efforts to be more inclusive and diverse, he said that he does not think USM is where it needs to be or should be. However, the university has an administration that who is paying attention and being more responsive. Much of the credit also needs to be given, as he said, to "a dynamic student body who have been pretty engaged, who have called facul-

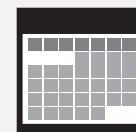
ty members, staff, administrators and fellow students out on a lot of issues on which they have failed."

Rowe credited convocation as a something that, as he said "can lead to greater understanding, and for us to be more patient with each other and to be willing to listen to one another, and to actually speak truths to one another in a way that is free, and also we can grow together." He believes that if USM can do these things, eventually the university will eventually end up in the right place.

Recently, USM has started a race and ethnics minor, and Rowe is hoping to help grow that into a major. If it becomes a major, and with the support of the history department, he believes that USM will be able to hire more people who teach similar courses similar to what he teaches to him and that USM will continue to become more diversegrow in diversity, not only in the student body but in the faculty as well.

"Having faculty of color is one of the ways in which this institution will continue to grow and be more attractive to a diverse student body," Rowe said.

FP



Community Events

Monday, October 16

Screening of "Daughters of the Dust"
USM Portland campus
Talbot Hall
Starts: 7 p.m.

Tuesday, October 17

Beer in the Garden
Maine Historical Society
489 Congress Street, Portland
Starts: 4:30 p.m. / Ends: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 18

"Life as a Muslim Girl in Maine"
Panel Discussion
Room 285
Lewiston-Auburn Campus
Starts: 5 p.m.

Thursday, October 19

"Where Do Jews Fit in America's Culture of Race?" Lecture
USM Portland campus
133 Wishcamper
Starts: 5 p.m. / Ends: 7 p.m.

Friday, October 20

Bootcamp
USM Gorham campus
Costello Sports Complex
Starts: 6:15 a.m. / Ends: 7:15 a.m.

Saturday, October 21

Spooky Tour
Stroudwater Cemetery
Tate House Museum
1267 Westbrook Street
Starts: 12 p.m. / Ends: 4 p.m.

Sunday, October 22

Pumpkins in the Square
Congress Square Park
Corner of Congress and High Streets
Starts: 1 p.m. / Ends: 3 p.m.

Want us to include your event?
dionne.smith@usmfreepress.org

Sports

Wednesday

Men's Soccer

@ Saint Joseph's
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's Soccer

vs. Fitchburg State
3:30 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's Volleyball

@ Colby-Sawyer
7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Field Hockey

vs. Bates College
3:30 p.m.

Sunday

Golf

NEIGA
Championships
Brewster, MA

USM fall athletics update

Student teams wrap up their seasons

River Plouffe Vogel
Sports Editor

Men's Soccer

With only four games left in the regular season, it's been a competitive year for USM men's soccer. In years past, the team has struggled. However, this year boasting a 5-7-2 record, with most losses coming in by narrow margins, it has certainly been a turnaround season. Coach Mark Keller is in his 14th year as head coach. The team has seen a strong showing from players like sophomore Sam Anderson, who leads the team in scoring, and freshman goalie Richard Glemannwu, who took home LEC Rookie of the Week honors twice this season.

Women's Soccer

It has been a tough season this fall for the women's soccer team. They currently sit at 2-9 overall and have lost their last eight games. However, 16 of their 24 players are either freshmen or sophomores, and there is no doubt that coach Lisa Petrucci has plenty of talent to develop. Like the men's team, there are four games left in the regular season and ample time for the women's team to make some noise. Player Ally Little, who was diagnosed with a very serious and rare disease last year, is back and getting minutes to everyone's delight! So blessed and thankful to have you back with us, Ally.

Golf

The men's golf team is steaming towards the end of their season this October. It has been a fantastic season so far, as they have placed first in three of the past four outings. Reggie Grant, the head coach in his 18th season and with seven of the ten players on the team being sophomores they can expect to continue their winning ways. Players like Greg Kalagais, sophomore, won the GNAC (Great Northeast Athletic Conference) Rookie of the Year as a freshman, headline this young team. This year men's golf has been lead by senior Grayson Waterman, who has shot in the

low 70s consistently this fall. The NEIG championships will be held in Brewster, Mass., at the end of this month.

Women's Field Hockey

The women's field hockey team have three games left this season. They are currently 4-10 overall, but 3-5 in conference play. Although it's been a tough season, the team could still go deep into the postseason, and has done so as a lower seat in past seasons. Most of their games have been close, and there is no doubting this team's skill and abilities. Head coach Bonny Brown Denico is in her 20th season and has a roster full of experience at her disposal. This includes senior captains Tayla Smedberg and Kaylie Andrews. Their next game is in Gorham on Oct. 19 against Bates College.

Women's Tennis

The women's tennis team is currently 2-7 overall and 0-7 in conference play. Their only wins come against Thomas College of Maine and Husson University of Maine. However, the team is in a transition year with head coach Eric Haase in his first season. The team only has one senior, Rikki Demoranville. Tennis is unique because there are multiple seasons, which means they are usually playing all year round, special thanks to the facilities USM has for winter training and play. This means the team has plenty of time to find its stride.

Women's Volleyball

The women's volleyball team has been flat out dominating. They are 15-5 overall and 10-1 in their last eleven games. This team is fun to watch and routinely sweeps the competition. I should mention that they don't have a single player over 6 feet tall, which really speaks to this team's athleticism and skill. Head coach Diana Newell is in her fifth season and has a strong core of players who really come together since her start. Seniors like Jess Williams, Maria Garcia and Mo Raymond have been the cornerstones of USM's

winning ways. The team has a lot of games left in the season and doesn't look to be slowing down. Their next match is Oct. 18th, at Colby College.

Men's Cross Country

It's been an exciting season for a very young men's cross country team. With coach Ryan Harkleroad in his fifth season, it's clear his system has been working. The USM Track Program for both men and women have been pumping out All-American's and really putting USM running on the map. Last year they were the LEC (Little East Conference) conference champions and this year, with eight freshmen and only three seniors the men's cross country team has been showing out at every meet, led by sophomore transfer student Chandler Vincent, who has not lost a race yet. Like most sports, you want to peak towards the end of the season, and as things are looking, the men's cross country team is poised to make quite the run and could place highly at this year's NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) regional championship, which will be held on our home course in Gorham on Nov. 11.

Women's Cross Country

The USM women's cross country team has had a great season thus far. With coach George Towle, in his incredible 32nd season as head coach, the women's cross country team is looking to finish strong down the stretch. Towle has coached a lot of amazing athletes to LEC conference championships and through to national's, like Peyton Dostie who won the National Championship in the 60-meter hurdles in 2016. Last year the women's cross country team too home the 2016 UTFCCA (US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association) all academic team honors. This year they are lead by senior Heather Evans. The LEC conference championship will be at Keane St. on Oct. 28, at noon.

FP

Athlete of the Week

Jess Williamson



Photo courtesy of USM Athletics

River Plouffe Vogel
Sports Editor

USM is full of amazing student athletes, who have exceptional performances on and off the field, exhibiting sportsmanship and academic excellence. However, sometimes a student athlete comes around that takes exceptional to the next level. One such athlete is Jess Williamson, a senior from Goffstown N.H. Williamson is in her senior year at USM, a biology major and pre-vet. She was the LEC Rookie of the Year in 2014, First Team All-LEC in 2015 and 2016, and has made the LEC All-Academic Team every year. To get a good idea of how good Williamson is, in her sophomore year she broke USM's career kills record of 892. Thus far she has amassed over 1700 kills, almost twice the next name on the record list. In this season alone she has 308 kills and 184 digs. Williamson is an exciting player to watch. She reads the game so well and is always the most explosive player on the court. To top it off, she is a leader on a team that has been on fire this season. When asked what she would say to her high school self, Williamson responded, "Take time for yourself. Being a student-athlete can be stressful and hectic, and it's important to give yourself a break. Even when you don't feel like you have the time, you need to make time."

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